

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 7-10 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended, as is the Specification. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following Remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Claim Objections

The Office Action objects to claims 1 and 7 due to informalities. Claims 1 and 7 are amended to satisfy formal requirements and obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection to claims 1 and 7 is respectfully requested.

II. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,835,179 to Yamanaka in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,032,021 to Kanatani et al. (hereinafter "Kanatani"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Yamanaka does not disclose an exit side polarizer spaced apart from the exit side cover as is recited, among other features, in independent claims 1 and 7.

The Office Action asserts that Kanatani discloses this feature. Kanatani is directed at providing a refrigerant cooling medium for the liquid crystal panel and a polarizing plate in a liquid crystal display unit. Kanatani does not describe the construction of the liquid crystal display unit, except to say that such a construction is known (col. 2, lines 54-55).

Claims 1 and 7 recite, among other features, an exit side polarizer spaced apart from the exit side cover and held in place by a structure to maintain consistent spacing between the exit side polarizer and the exit side cover. Applicants respectfully submit that Kanatani neither discloses nor suggests construction of any specific structure as part of the liquid crystal display unit, particularly a structure usable to maintain consistent spacing between the exit side polarizer and the exit side cover.

Applicants further respectfully submit that each of the dependent claims 2-4 includes all of the features recited in claim 1, and that each of the dependent claims 8-10 includes all of the features recited in claim 7.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that claims 1-4 and 7-10 are neither suggested nor motivated by the combination of Yamanaka and Kanatani. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1-4 and 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-4 and 7-10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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